

Durango, Co 81303
November 2, 2006

Robert Baker, Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Sir:

I am writing concerning the proposed 1500-megawatt Desert Rock coal-fired power plant. There are many serious questions remaining regarding the permitting of this plant.

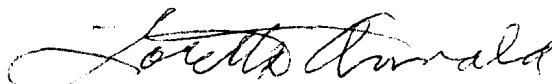
We already have 2 of the major polluting power plants in the country in the Four Corners area, so how can the EPA consider that the adjacent siting of the Desert Rock plant is permissible? The ozone levels, and mercury contamination in the entire area are already reaching permissible limits. What about the SOx, CO and NOx emissions? Scientific consensus is that such emissions are causing Global Warming at an ever accelerating pace, which will change our planet in dangerous ways. How do you plan to comply with the Clean Air Mercury Rule? Why were pollutant monitors used for modeling background pollution not in the areas that will be affected by this plant?

Since I moved to this area in 1966, I have observed the thick yellow clouds of pollution from the existing plants cut visibility to a fraction of what it should be. The pollution is causing ever increasing health problems, such as allergies, asthma, eye and nasal irritation (even in livestock and other animals). How does the EPA plan to mitigate these effects?

Where is the produced power to be transmitted to? Far from here. Why should this area pay the price in degraded quality of life? Especially when half of the produced power will be lost in transmission, further spreading the effects. How does Desert Rock comply with Executive Order 12898, since many of these consequences will fall upon the Navajo people?

Most of the effects of this proposed plant have not been addressed by the EPA. I question whether laws, let alone guidelines, have been followed. The questions far outnumber the answers so far provided. It has not even been clearly shown that there is a need for this power. The Draft EIS is not complete.

Very truly yours,


Loretta Annala

Durango CO 81303

10/26/2006

Dear Mr. Baker –

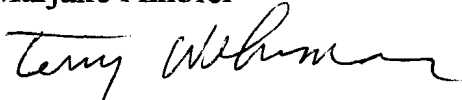
We would like to express our opposition to the permit for the Desert Rock power plant. This area already suffers from air pollution from existing power plants. My mother and many other people who have emphysema cannot stand any additional pollution.

Please do what you can for environmental protection by not approving this plant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marjane Ambler".

Marjane Ambler

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry Wehrman".

Terry Wehrman

Mancos CO 81328

Sept. 14th, 2006

Attn: Robert Baker or,
To Whom It May Concern,

In response to the proposal for a Clean Air Act permit for the proposed Desert Rock power plant:

- 1) The Best Available Control Technology proposed for this project is an insufficient level of technology to provide safe power without damaging the health of the surrounding populations and environment. We are concerned that the levels of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and particulates determined to be "of safe levels" through BACT, are extreme health dangers to those living within the nearby region, specifically those living on the Navajo Nation. Other populations will receive negative health effects from these air pollutants through visitation to this area, ground water contamination, air pollutants and general negative impacts on society and environment. The Best Available Control Technology is insufficient technology to protect the health of the citizens of the Navajo Nation, this country and the environment of the surrounding areas of the proposed site.
- 2) Insufficient research has been done concerning the full impact of pre-existing power plants in this area and other national areas. In relation to the environmental pollution, we are strongly opposed to the granting of any permit for new construction of power plants, before pre-existing and/or abandoned power plants have been completely decontaminated and cleaned up in a safe and contained manner. In specific, Four Corners Power Plant must be decontaminated, and destructed before any further permits are granted.
- 3) The NAAQS are inadequate standards to promote healthy living in this country. The impact of yet another power plant on the Navajo Nation will increase the risks of cancer and respiratory illnesses for the people who inhabit the Nation. We demand more research into the health risks environmental pollution caused by coal-fire power plants. We also demand more research into alternative, renewable power sources before the Desert Rock power plant is granted a Clean Air Act permit, or any permission to begin construction.

Thank you for recognizing our comments and we urge your support to deny all permits to the Desert Rock power plant before all suggestions above are attended to,

Jamie Bach

and

Nicole Smith

Boulder, CO. 80302

Boulder, CO. 80302

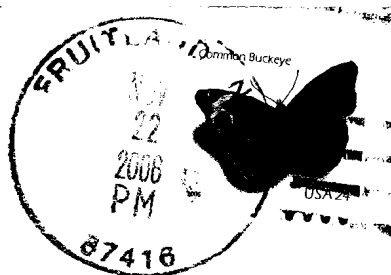
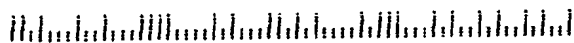



Cecilia Barber
PO Box
KIRTLAND NM 87417

WE WANT A
HEARING TO
take place in
FARMINGTON, NM!

Thank you
Cecilia Barber

2
A



Robert Baker, Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

September 22, 2006

Gallup, NM 87301

Robert Baker
Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker:

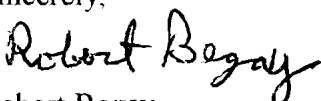
I am writing in favor of the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant. In the past twenty plus years great strides have been made through legislation and technology to make our power plants more efficient and clean.

Although there is great debate over green house gases and the like, we need to recognize that there is a demand for inexpensive and reliable energy. The environmental impact of the Desert Rock Power Plant will be minimal. The strenuous regulations of the EPA will ensure that toxic gases are reduced to a minimum. Water quality will also be an issue that will be safeguarded by existing legislation and regulations.

This area of New Mexico needs this power plant. It will have enormous economic benefits for the Navajo Nation and San Juan County as well. Numerous hearings are being conducted in the Four Corners Region. I am not able to attend any of the public hearings but I would like to go on record as supporting the proposed Desert Rock Power Plant.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,


Robert Begay

Betty Benally

Fruitland, NM - 87416-0772



Please Help us over
Here at Burnham to not
plant power and we
Need Clear Air Please

Robert Baker, Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA
94105

II-29

cc: 4
Betty Benally

XI - 30

Dear Sir or madam

10 - 27 - 00

This letter will be to late to include in your file, but I had to write it anyway.

I'm a 57 year old Farmington resident - I'm on oxygen

24/7 - I have asthma and chronic bronchitis. I cough up phlegm all the time, I'm congested which makes breathing more difficult. I

have problems with my eyes being dry and irritated all the time - I'm unable to

wash my clothes or dishes, vacuum, make my bed. I

have a small dog who I walk until I'm out of breath and we come in. I have

oxygen on my walker. When my caretakers ~~can~~ come in the

on

(2)

morning they take her out before they leave. Later my neighbor takes her out. After that she goes out on one of those those urinals that insert into the ground because I'm too tired to take her out.

I can't believe you want to approve another coal fired Power Plant in this area. People have chronic lung problems, especially our children.

You can see the haze in the air where I live in the middle of town. When you come from Albuquerque and top the hill going into Bloomfield you can see the brown haze that hangs over where the power

(3)

plants are.

The reason you didn't have a lot of attendance were because a lot of the people who are affected by the unclean air don't drive. I can't drive at night so that's a problem.

So all vote NO NO NO to approval for another air polluting coal Power Plant.

Sincerely

Linda L. Blakesley
505

he Daily Times online at <http://www.daily-times.com>

RE FROM PAGE A1

Farmington, New Mexico **The Daily Times**

An aerial
photo-
graph of
the Four
Corners
Power
Plant taken
on Oct. 18.

Lucas Ian
Coshenet
The Daily
Times



Louise Benally

Fruitland, N.M. 87416-0772



I don't want air
Pollution, I want clean
air plus no power

in plant.

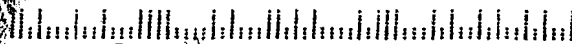
A

Tumb plant



Louise Benally

Robert Baker, Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA
94105



October 8, 2006

Mr. Robert Baker
EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Dear Mr. Baker:

I moved here to Cortez 5 years ago. When we use to drive down to Farmington we could see quite a way down towards Galup. Not any more! ! !

The other day we went to Farmington and it was a beautiful clear morning and we enjoyed the scenery we don't usually get to see. Then, 3 hours later as we started back to Cortez, there was all the horrible, unhealthy gook in the sky. It was so pitiful and disappointing.

Now, we know, and you undoubtedly know, that the Plants aren't monitored enough and they and their stuff they are spewing into the air and up here, are injuring our young and older people.

You surely can find another way to develop POWER. For instance, there is Solar Power. If we can send people year after year to the moon and planets, we surely can try to keep our Earth cleaner and our citizens healthy with CLEAN air and enviroment.

I suggest strongly that you think again about what you are doing to the Native American population and to the rest of the people who care. Is money so important to all of you that you don't care if you are injuring us?

Sincerely,



Marcia M. Boon

Cortez, CO 81321

October 9, 2006

Attn: Robert Baker or
To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in response to the proposal for a Clean Air Act permit for the proposed Desert Rock power plant:

1. Insufficient research has been done in this area with the existing power plants. The existing Four Corners Power plant at this time needs to be decontaminated. That should be the first priority concerning this area. Only after that should other permits be considered.
2. The existing standards are inadequate for any form of healthy living in this area. Many cases of cancer and respiratory illnesses exist in the Navajo Nation, many feel these are due to the existing power plants. Even considering another one is insulting to these people and all others that live in the Four Corners region.
3. It is difficult to imagine that alternative methods of renewable power sources are not attempted before the Desert Rock power plant is even considered.

I urge your support to deny all permits to the Desert Rock power plant.

Maggie Bowes

Maggie Bowes

1/venue

Durango

October 7, 2006

Robert Baker

Air - 3

US Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker,

Why was there no EPA public hearing for the Desert Rock PSD Air Quality Permit in Farmington? As the largest community to be affected by this proposal, we need to be represented! Please extend the closing of the comment period for the permit beyond October 27, and schedule public hearings in the most obvious place.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Brady

Farmington, NM 87401

Janise I. Colman

XT-35

Durango, CO 81301
970-382-8855
jjcolman@gobrainstorm.net

October 12, 2006

Robert Baker
Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Baker,

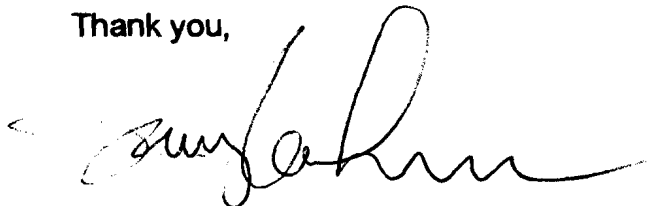
Regarding: Desert Rock Power Plant Permit - **Do not approve this permit !**

I have checked out your website. All the graphs and techno lingo is great information, but it still does NOT address the fact that building a coal burning power plant would be using a NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCE !!! You look at all the graphs and charts and tell me how burning something that we cannot reproduce makes any sense at all. That is why I insist you to be forward thinking and offer alternatives that continue to develop technology that uses the sun & wind. God bless us if we ever loose the sun ! The future of other developing nations have made great leaps in these technologies to avoid their past mistakes. Why would our nation... "most advanced" in the world use a technology that would burn up the source and then what ??????????????????

Common sense!!! That's all that is being requested. Do the right thing. You can pat yourself on your back when you decide not to approve this permit. Make us use our alternatives that will benefit our future with the technologies. We must eliminate our pollutions not just reduce it ! The generations following sure will appreciate your forward thinking.

Let's make steps to show other countries we too can make a positive difference. We've got a lot to do to clean up our mistakes... unfortunately all of them will not be able to be addressed in our life time. This plant would only add to the mistake list !

Thank you,



Janise J Colman

Robert Baker

October 19, 2006

Air 3

US Environmental Protection Agency

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

I would like to comment on the Desert Rock power plant proposal.

I am shocked to learn that this plant will produce more carbon monoxide than the San Juan Generating Station at this crucial time of concern over global warming.

This Four Corners Area is experiencing drought & tree infestations -- dying aspens and mercury pollution. We don't need another huge power plant before addressing the issues that now face us. We also have problems with ozone and acid rain.

I feel that pressure needs to be put on the existing four corners plants to improve their performance. I am particularly concerned that the government seems to want to ignore the mercury problem.

Thank you for accepting my comments.

Beth Suttle Estelle

rk Avenue

Durango, CO 81301

Oct. 4, 2006

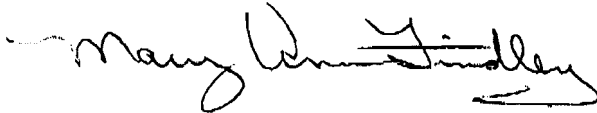
Desert Rock Air Permit

ATTN: Robert Baker

I would like to voice my support for the Desert Rock Air Permit on one condition. The permit should only be granted on the condition that the other plant on reservation land be forced to clean it's operation up. That is where the majority of pollution comes from in the Four Corners. If the present site is forced to put the latest technology into use, and the new plant will of course use the new technology, then I am in support. This country is far short of enough power generation plants, and we must build more, but let's do it right and clean up the old ones also.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Findley

Dolores, CO 81323



38

Dolores, CO 81323
Oct 25, 2006

Robert Baker
AIR-3
U.S.E.P.A.
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco CA 94105

Dear Robert Baker:

We have grave concerns about the addition of any new power plants in the 4-corners area because we are already suffering many ill effects from the existing ones. The problems have grown especially large over the past 2 years with us getting ill when we go outside to water our plants in the summer and fall and when we go to pick vegetables from a neighbor's garden. We are unable to eat the vegetables anymore and are very concerned about soil and plant contamination. Increased allergic responses are greatly slowing healing processes. A viral infection started in mid-September has not yet cleared up now!

When the winter months come there is no improvement because temperature inversions force the pollution that has blown into the mountains on the prevailing southwest winds (San Juan Mountains of Colorado) down hill into our area and the healing plants draw it into the house.

Far from thinking there should be any more power plants, we think the existing ones need to do much more pollution control right now.

Thank you for addressing our considerable concerns.

Very truly yours,

Cathy Fung
Rick Fung et

21

XI-39

Cortez, Colorado
October 23, 2006

Robert Baker, Air-3
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Sir:

Please read the enclosed column and help us here in the Four Corners Area to help you perform your duty to the people of this country. Protection for life flora/fauna, water, air and earth is a huge undertaking in the face of rapacious power. We need each other.

Sincerely yours,
Robert M. Conway
P.O. Box
Cortez, Colorado 81321

Speak up about air quality in Montezuma County

The Cortez Montezuma League of Women Voters has commented at public meetings in Durango concerning the permit for the Desert Rock power plant. We will be submitting written comments too. We are now asking for the community's help, please make comments concerning the Desert Rock power plant.

GUEST COLUMN

MARY LOU
ASBURY

For nearly three years, the League of Women Voters of Cortez Montezuma County has been studying air quality in the County. We undertook the study because some people with asthma and other respiratory disorders were noticing more days each year when they were having increased difficulty breathing. People also noticed decreased visibility and brown haze to the south, where there are two existing power plants.

In addition, reservoirs in our area have posted warnings about eating the fish in their waters because of mercury contamination. According to reports of testing done in those reservoirs, the mercury appeared after the power plants now in northern New Mexico began operating. Mercury is a known by-product of coal-fired power plants.

EPA has issued a proposed Clean Air Act Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for Sithe Global Energy, a German company, to construct a new power plant. The new facility, known as Desert Rock, is not far from the Four Corners power plant, which is one of the dirtiest in the country. Among our concerns with the proposed permit is the fact that it is unusual and illogical for EPA to seek comment on a PSD permit before it has issued a proposed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is what is occurring in this case. EPA should postpone issuance of the PSD permit until the complete EIS is available and final.

Another concern is that EPA is required to consider whether a proposed facility plans to use the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) in its operations. Sithe is planning to construct two supercritical pulverized coal fired boilers. This is not the BACT. The BACT is Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle design, which is used at two other power plants in the U.S. and at plants elsewhere. In addition to reducing the amount of pollution emitted

into the air, coal gasification uses far less coal. Estimates are that the supply of coal lasts twice as long.

EPA also is mandated to provide the highest degree of protection of air quality in Class One areas, which include Mesa Verde National Park. It appears that EPA has not considered the air quality monitoring data that is publicly available from the National Park Service Air Resources Division. EPA proposes to deal with its responsibility to provide the highest degree of protection by a side agreement with Sithe stating that it will assure visibility in Class One areas is protected. Side agreements are not legally enforceable. All such agreements should be conditions of any permits issued and legally enforceable.

Clean air is important not only for the health of our residents, it is important for our two major industries, tourism and agriculture. Tourists come here expecting to see clear vistas for miles. They do not expect to see brown haze or obstructed views.

With regard to agriculture, research has shown that nitrous oxide and sulfur dioxide emitted by power plants can adversely affect the root systems of native species and cultivated crops and allow invasions of non-native plants.

In public presentations, Sithe has boasted how clean the new plant will be and has promised, for example, that it will reduce mercury emissions by 90%. The only way to be certain that Sithe fulfills its promises and obligations is to have sufficient monitoring, paid for by the new plant, throughout the region that will be affected by emissions from Desert Rock.

The League of Women Voters has provided you, the public, with information so you can respond to the Proposed Prevention of Significant Deterioration Permit for the Desert Rock power plant. We suggest you choose an area of concern from the material we have presented, and write or e-mail your comments to the following no later than October 27, 2006. They can be e-mailed to desertrockairpermit@epa.gov or mailed to Robert Baker, Air-3, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105.

You can see details about the PSD permit at www.epa.gov/region9/air/permit/desertrock.

Mary Lou Asbury is the chair of the Cortez Montezuma League of Women Voters.